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# Oxis Chinese Character Finder

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The **Oxis Chinese Character Finder** is an online tool (and method) for entering [Chinese characters](#).

A set of twenty-four abstract graphics is used to describe the printed form of Chinese characters. Each graphic is represented by a single ascii digit or letter, and the graphics themselves can be approximated with Chinese characters. The characters and their text equivalents are:

目1 日2 𠃊3 夕4 口5 乂6 牛7 十8 丿9 ㄥA β B 丶 D 山E 一H | I JJ 长K 乚L 弓S 厂T 冂U 厶V 人Y 丿Z

These are combined according to a small set of rules that can be used implicitly or shown explicitly. The main rules are:

- combine as a sequence, q;
- combine as a superposition, p;
- use as an influence, n.

White space is designated by an underscore or a hyphen, and brackets can be used to disambiguate certain combinations. A complete character is represented by a string of ascii text.

The oxis schema is used as an input system for Chinese characters by entering part or parts of a character (optionally as a mixture of oxis text, oxis graphics, and constituent Chinese characters) to invoke all the characters in a particular set that contain these graphics in this order. The set searched can be restricted in several specific ways, for example by entering an R to find [radicals](#) only. This is currently implemented for the [first 2000 Chinese characters](#) ([simplified](#) and [traditional](#)) plus radicals in a website designed for users with slight to moderate familiarity with Chinese. It also lets users create their own searchable subsets.

## See also

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